

The Knowledge Bank at The Ohio State University
Ohio State Engineer

Title: The History of the Department of Industrial Engineering

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Issue Date: Apr-1932

Publisher: Ohio State University, College of Engineering

Citation: Ohio State Engineer, vol. 15, no. 6 (April, 1932), 12, 23.

URI: <http://hdl.handle.net/1811/34922>

Appears in Collections: [Ohio State Engineer: Volume 15, no. 6 \(April, 1932\)](#)

THE HISTORY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERING

By PROFESSOR JOHN YOUNGER, *Chairman*

EARLY in 1925, Dean Hitchcock of the College of Engineering asked the writer if he would join the faculty of The Ohio State University to organize the work in Industrial Engineering, looking toward a degree-giving department. On accepting the offer, I came to the University at the beginning of the Autumn Quarter of 1925. That year no courses were given in industrial engineering



PROFESSOR JOHN YOUNGER

looking toward a degree; but a course, Industrial Engineering 712, was started, elective for other departments in the College of Engineering, giving the students a knowledge of the principles of industrial engineering.

The work of the Department of Industrial Engineering really began with the Autumn Quarter of 1926, when two students presented themselves for the degree of Bachelor of Industrial Engineering which they would receive in June, 1927. These two young men were H. L. Cannell and William B. Gillen. Since then the department has grown very rapidly and at the present moment we have some 45 juniors and 40 seniors enrolled for our work.

Throughout the work of this department emphasis is placed on the human side of engineering, on the economic side of engineering, and on the production side of engineering. Our students prepare themselves for positions where they will be engaged in manufacturing in some one of its aspects. We also prepare students for sales engineering.

The first thought that I had in starting this work was that possibly our students would go mostly into the automotive industry, as my own experience had been in this industry. It has been quite a pleasant surprise to me to find that these students have secured positions in many different types of industry; for example, some in the chemical industry, some in the electrical industry, some in the machine tool industry, some in the metal working industry, and only a few have gone into the automotive industry. Similarly the positions which they are filling are just as varied—some are doing time study work, some are production planners, some are in the purchasing department, one man is in the master mechanic's depart-

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ment, and one is supervising the budget of a very large automobile body concern.

It is therefore apparent to me that our men can go into any branch of engineering where manufacturing is undertaken; many go into the manufacturing selling line. Our department has been greatly pleased with the co-operative spirit which has prevailed among the students of the department. There is an excellent *esprit de corps* among the students and among the faculty, and I firmly believe that this has contributed much to our success.

Our Student Society of Industrial Engineers, which was organized in 1927, has done much to bring the students together on a social and technical basis. Similarly our students have taken an active part in the different campus sports, such as bowling, basketball, baseball, etc.

We are too young to have any history, our history lies in the future, but we are confident that our students after graduation will "make good."

"Do you love me enough to give up your life?"

"Mine is an undying love." —*Widow.*

* * * *

"Come quick, Mamma, Oscar's eating all the raisins off the flypaper."

—*Ski-U-Mu.*